

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically combining a digital image with text data, comprising:
 - (a) receiving electronic data comprising a digital image;
 - (b) automatically classifying the image according to a predetermined set of categories; and
 - (c) searching a repository of categorized text data for text data having a parent category corresponding to the category of the image, according to a predetermined criterion,
 - (d) iteratively searching a plurality of sub-categories of categorized text data, of the parent category, for text data corresponding to the category of the image according to the predetermined criterion, wherein each corresponding sub-category becomes the parent category for the next iteration of the search; and
 - (e)(e) automatically selecting text data from thea repository that ~~matches~~ belongs to the sub-category of text data corresponding to the category of the image according to thea predetermined-criterion; criterion in the final iteration of the search;

wherein (a), ~~(b)~~ and ~~(e)~~ (b), (c), (d) and (e) are executed on one or more servers;

~~wherein~~ the text data is not metadata;

~~wherein~~ the text data is at least one of a newspaper, book, magazine, brochure, pamphlet or advertisement; and

~~wherein~~ each of the newspaper, book, magazine, brochure, pamphlet or advertisement are stored as a text file.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the selected text data ~~matches~~ corresponds to a predetermined recipient profile.
3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein said selecting at ~~(e)~~ (e) further comprises automatically selecting a recipient profile according to a predetermined criterion.
4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the predetermined criterion is the sender of the electronic data.
5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising automatically combining the image and the selected text data to form a combined document.
6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising at least one of automatically initiating printing of the combined document and sending the combined document.
7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said receiving at (a) comprises receiving the electronic data over a network via at least one of electronic mail and a digital telephone network.
8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said receiving at (a) further comprises requesting and receiving at least one of a recipient name and a recipient profile.
9. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said receiving at (a) further comprises testing the electronic data regarding at least one of authentication, authorization with respect to a potential recipient, and content of the image.
10. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said classifying at (b) is preceded by automatically placing the electronic data on a queue or schedule for classification.
11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said selecting-at (e) at (e) further comprises searching the repository for the sub-categorized text data comprising a keyword associated with the category of the image.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the electronic data further comprises image content information data and wherein said classifying at (b) further comprises extracting the image content information data.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein the image content information data comprises one or more of positional and temporal information regarding the image, and wherein said classifying at (b) further comprises comparing at least one of the position and temporal information with a lookup table.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said classifying at (b) further comprises extracting content information from the image.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein extracting content information from the image comprises applying at least one of a kernel image categorization method and a multi-classifier method.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically combining a digital image with text data, comprising:

- (a) receiving electronic data comprising a digital image;
- (b) automatically classifying the image according to a predetermined set of categories; and
- (c) searching a repository of categorized text data for text data having a parent category corresponding to the category of the image, according to a predetermined criterion.

(d) iteratively searching a plurality of sub-categories of categorized text data, of the parent category, of the text data corresponding to the category of the image according to the predetermined criterion, wherein each corresponding sub-category becomes the parent category for the next iteration of the search; and

(e)(e) automatically selecting text data from a repository that matches belongs to the category for text data corresponding to the category of the image according to a the predetermined criterion; criterion in the final iteration of the search;

wherein (a), ~~(b)~~ and ~~(e)~~ (b), (c), (d) and (e) are executed on one or more servers;

~~wherein~~ the text data is at least one of a newspaper, book, magazine, brochure, pamphlet or advertisement; and

~~wherein~~ each of the newspaper, book, magazine, brochure, pamphlet or advertisement is stored as a text file.

19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus including one or more servers for automatically combining a digital image with text data, comprising:

a receiving means on at least one of the one or more servers configured to receive electronic data comprising a digital ~~image~~, image;

a classification means on at least one of the one or more servers configured to automatically classify the image according to a predetermined set of categories; ~~categories~~, and

a searching means on at least one of the one or more servers configured to search a repository of categorized text data for text data having a parent category corresponding to the category of the image, according to a predetermined criterion,

an iterative search means configured to search a plurality of sub-categories of categorized text data, of the parent category, for text data corresponding to the category of the

image according to the predetermined criterion, wherein each corresponding sub-category becomes the parent category next iteration of the search; and

a selection means on at least one of the one or more servers configured to automatically select text data from a repository that ~~matches~~ belongs to the sub-category for text data corresponding to the category of the image according to a predetermined criterion in the final iteration of the search, ~~criterion;~~ and

wherein the text data is not metadata;

wherein the text data is at least one of a newspaper, book, magazine, brochure, pamphlet or advertisement; and

wherein each of the newspaper, book, magazine, brochure, pamphlet or advertisement is stored as a text file.

20. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising a combining means configured to automatically combine the image and the selected text data to form a combined document.